

ism, I cannot allow my name to be coupled with adulterators or apologists for that nefarious business.

While writing you, Mr. Editor, I would like to state a few facts relative to the latest work of the National Beekeepers' Union. It has just had its "first round" during 1893, with the enemies of the pursuit, and, as usual, has been triumphant.

On January 16th, as soon as the Senate of Missouri got to work, Senator Seebree introduced the following, entitled, "An Act to regulate the keeping of honey bees in cities, towns and villages in this State, and to provide a penalty for its violation." The full text is as follows —

*Be it Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows.*

SECTION 1.—No person shall own, keep or have in his possession or under his control, any honey-bees in boxes, bee-guns or other thing of confinement in any city, town or village in this State, whether organized under general or special charters, nearer than fifty (50) feet from the line of any adjacent real estate owner, or person in possession of such adjacent property.

SECTION 2.—Any person violating the provisions of the preceding section shall upon conviction be fined for each offence not less than ten nor more than twenty dollars, and each offence shall be deemed a period of one week after one notice in writing shall have been given to the owner or person in possession of the bees to remove the same to a distance provided by the first section of this act; and if after notice, the owner or party in possession of said bees, it shall be the duty of the sheriff of the county, or the constable of the township in which the offence is committed to remove the said bees to the said distance of fifty feet, and for reasonable compensation for his services he shall have an act of debt against the owner or person in possession of said bees, and the said bees, nor the boxes or bee-guns, or thing in which they shall be kept, shall be exempt from execution to pay the judgment founded upon such claim for said services for removing the same as aforesaid.

SECTION 3. If the said honey-bees cannot be removed and kept in boxes, bee-guns or other thing at a greater distance than fifty feet from the line of the adjacent owner or proprietor, as provided by section 1 of this Act, then in such event the keeping of them in such city, town or village is absolutely prohibited, and after ten

days' notice in writing to remove the same, the owner or person in possession or control of them shall be punished upon conviction, as provided by Section 2. of this Act.

Here is a clear case of prohibition of the pursuit in all "cities, towns and villages" in Missouri, if it should become law, for a bee-keeper must have OVER a hundred feet to be able to keep his bees. "fifty feet from the line of any adjacent real estate owner, or person in possession of such adjacent property." But few bee-keepers would have more than fifty feet in all.

Mr. W. S. Dorn Blaser, ex-Secretary of Missouri Bee-Keepers' Association, sent the "Bill" to the Manager of the Union, and instantly the decision of the Supreme Court of Arkansas was brought into play like a gatling gun, and copies of it were sent to the members of the legislature and to the Governor. Letters were written to them advising them not to allow it to pass, showing that it would be a dead letter, as it was unconstitutional, and would be so construed by the courts, as they had the precedent of the Arkansas Supreme Court to guide them.

The Hon. R. L. Taylor, President of the Union, was appealed to, and he backed up the General Manager by giving his "opinion" on the bill—that it was unconstitutional, and should be "fought to the end" vigorously.

Mr. Joseph G. Banting, President of the Missouri State Bee Keepers' Association, also appealed to the Manager of the Union and was instructed to fight the bill at every step—that the Union would see him through, etc. If it had passed both houses, then the Governor would have been appealed to, and would in all probability have vetoed it. President Banting writes me, thus: "I thank you for your prompt assistance."

When it came up in the lower house, the legislators were "posted," and promptly killed it. And thus ends another chapter in the "Comedy of Errors," of the enemies of apiculture! The Union is again triumphant, and adds "another feather in its cap."